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Salt Lake City Kid Among 2022 International Young Eco-Hero Award Winners

Local Student Receives Top Honor for Contributions to Solving Environmental Problems

San Francisco – Bianca Noyes, an 11 year-old from Salt Lake City, Utah, is one of sixteen young environmental activists from across the globe to receive a 2022 International Young Eco-Hero Award, announced Action For Nature today. This award honors eco-conscious youth ages 8 to 16 who are taking crucial steps to solve tough environmental problems.

Winners of the International Young Eco-Hero Award are selected by a panel of independent judges, including experts in environmental science, biology, and education. Since 2003, Action For Nature has recognized more than 341 Eco-Heroes from over 31 countries and 26 U.S. states.

Bianca won Second Place in the 8-12 year-old category for her project, "Kids Saving the Planet."

When former U.S. President Trump reduced the size of Utah's Bears Ears National Monument by one million acres, Bianca Noyes set out to change the fate of the area. She made paintings of Bears Ears and printed up 100 postcards with a message to restore the monument. Bianca wanted to deliver her message to someone who could actually make a difference, so she persuaded presidential candidate Joe Biden to promise to restore full protection for the monument. Bianca, who is now known as "The Little Girl Who Persuaded a President" successfully saved Bears Ears. She has now decided to help Native Americans living at Bears Ears by creating and delivering 250 back-to-school backpacks equipped with hand sanitizer and school supplies.

"Young people like Bianca have shown that the next generation of leaders is here, and they are taking action across the globe now to address the climate crisis and solve local, national, and global environmental challenges," said Beryl Kay, President of Action For Nature, an international non-profit organization that encourages young people to nurture a love and respect for the Earth and to take personal action to improve the environment. "The projects that young people like Bianca have created are having real and important impacts on their communities, helping to solve global climate challenges, and are inspiring others – including adults – to do what they can to help."

"I want to help and make a difference in the world," said Bianca Noyes. "I want to save more national parks, and help protect more animals from going extinct."

To read more about Bianca's work, visit facebook.com/kidsavingtheplanet.

To learn more about this year's International Young Eco-Hero Award winners, visit www.actionfornature.org.

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Action For Nature (AFN) is an international non-profit organization based in San Francisco, California, that encourages young people to nurture a love and respect for Earth's natural resources and to take personal action to protect the environment.